



Last week Shelley Daniels, our SENDCo, presented to the group the theme of *'Looking to the Future - Accessing Support from Social Care'*. Having worked previously for SENDIASS she has a wealth of information to draw from, and is very knowledgeable about SEND rights and how to access the support that is needed. It was a very informative session, and she has very kindly made the presentation available ([click here to view](#)).

Topics Shelley presented on included:

- ❖ What support can the Social Care Service give my young person?
- ❖ Age 0 –18: Children's Social Services
- ❖ Age 16-18: Transitions Team
- ❖ Age 18+: adult Social care
- ❖ Accessing support from Social Care
- ❖ Personal Budgets and Direct Payments
- ❖ Employing a PA
- ❖ St Anne's Community Services
- ❖ 0-18 Short breaks



Questions that came up during the session:

- ❖ What is my first step to accessing Social Care?
 - Apply for a social worker. See presentation for more details.
- ❖ How do you find the right P.A.?
 - C.I.L. and People Matters can help with this process. See presentation for details.
- ❖ How many hours of P.A. will my young person get?
 - Usually 4-6 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. It can be more though.

- ❖ What does the P.A. actually do?
 - Whatever your young person would like to do, within reason! Ideas include: going with them to the gym, cinema, restaurants, climbing, clubs and activities, museums, shopping, to see shows, working on life skills together and facilitating independent travel.
- ❖ What can we do if it doesn't work out with the P.A.?
 - You can re-advertise. C.I.L. can help with all these stages if needed.
- ❖ How long can the funding be provided?
 - This is reviewed by LCC regularly. Leeds City Council can provide more information about this.
- ❖ When does the EHCP cease? Source: <https://www.ipsea.org.uk/if-your-la-takes-away-your-ehc-plan> The LA is no longer responsible for the ECP if:
 - the young person has taken up full-time paid employment (excluding apprenticeships)
 - the young person has started a higher education course (or other level 4 course)
 - a young person aged 18 or over has left education and no longer wishes to engage in further learning
 - the young person has turned 25, or
 - the child or young person has moved permanently outside England.
 - Or on consultation it is agreed that the SEND needs have changed and the plan is no longer needed.
- ❖ What can we do to implement similar help in the workplace to that provided in the EHCP?
 - Anyone with a disability has the legal right to be supported in the workplace. These can be based on what provision was set out in the EHCP. Anyone needing adjustments would be best talking to their employer about this as soon as possible. For support with this, contact: <https://www.acas.org.uk/reasonable->



LFT Parent & Carer Peer Support Group



LIGHTHOUSE
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[adjustments/asking-for-reasonable-adjustments](#) or by contacting the Disability Employment Adviser (DEA) at your local Jobcentre Plus office.

- [Access to Work](#) can also provide funding for any additional technology, job coaching support and equipment. [Click here to apply for this grant.](#)
- ❖ When is Leeds Local Offer Live?
 - It will be held at Pudsey Civic Hall on 26th March 2025. Kayleigh Thurlow from Leeds Local Offer will be our next visiting speaker, on 13th January, and will be able to tell you all about what to expect.
- ❖ What are suitable forms of proof of age/ ID?
 - Valid passport
 - A photo driving licence
 - PASS card: <https://www.pass-scheme.org.uk/card-suppliers/>

We look forward to seeing you at [the next in-person group session, 5:00-6:30pm on Thursday January 16th](#) either in-person or [please book here to join remotely](#). **Kayleigh Thurlow** from **Leeds Local Offer** will be joining us to talk to parents and carers about the work she does and the upcoming Leeds Local Offer Live event. [Please book your free ticket on Eventbrite](#) and we will see you then!

Merry Christmas and Best wishes for 2025,
Emily and Shelley



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